PATENT 3875-0106P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Marco IORI et al.

Conf.:

7258

Appl. No.:

10/019,780

Group:

unassigned

iled:

January 4, 2002

Examiner: UNASSIGNED

For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION
BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 53(d) CPA APPLICATION
OR WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

April 29, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- a.
 Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

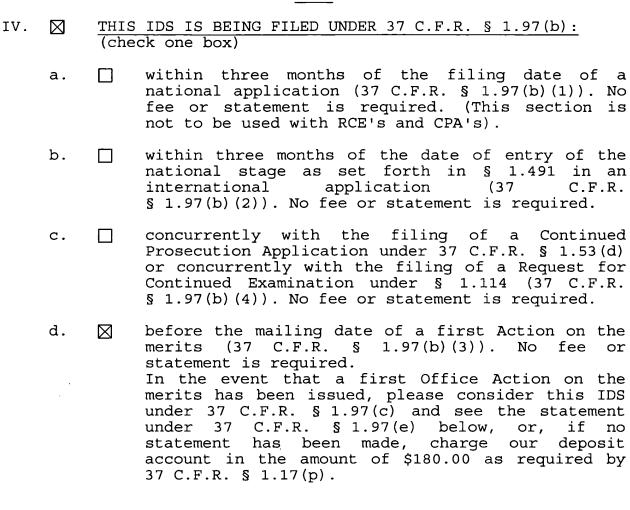
DE 199 28 946 Al has been listed in the International Search Report.

C. MERCH CANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES



V. \(\simega\) THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. \(\Sigma\) 1.97(c): (check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).

- a. \square No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- b. See the statement below. No fee is required.

VI. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that

- a.

 each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b.
 no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- Some of the items of information were cited in a c. communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

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- Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the above-indicated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.
- No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Joseph A. Kolaseli, #22,463

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Enclosures:

3875-0106P

JAK:11

□ Documents

X Foreign Search Report

□ Fee

□ Other:

(Rev. 10/31/01

Form PTO-1449		ATTY DOCKET NO. 3875-0106P	APPLICATION NO. 10/019,780							
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	CITATION	APPLICANT								
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(Use several sheets if necess	ary)	FILING DATE January 4, 200	GROUP unassigned							
Ţ	U.S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS		<u> </u>						
EXAMINED DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING IF APPRO	DATE PRIATE				
5,930,804	1999-07-27	Yu et al.			11 /2					
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION					
					YES	NO				
99/47989	1999-09-23	WO								
98/41947	1998-09-24	WO								
99/39310	1999-08-05	WO			<u> </u>					
199 28 946 A1	2000-12-28	DE								
98/11750	1998-03-19	WO								
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include Name of the autournal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), vo	thor (in CAPITAL LETTERS), to clume-issue number(s), publications.	itle of the article (when approisher, city and/or country where	priate), title e published.	le of the ite	m (book, mag	jazine,				
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